

Exploring

EXPRESS

Annual Update for Explorer Posts

Program Resources

Here is a listing of new and improved literature for Explorer post Advisors:

- **Explorer Leader Handbook (No. 34637A):** New revision of an old favorite. The book is divided into two sections: one for adult leaders (Advisors) and one for youth leaders. The adult leader section covers post administrative issues that an Advisor needs to know. The youth leader section is geared toward helping prepare leaders to get a dynamic program organized.



- **Guide to Safe Learning for Life Activities (No. 99-117):** This publication was sent to all local Learning for Life offices this fall. If you did not get a copy, call your local Learning for Life office. In it you will find tour permits, insurance requirements, and guidelines for organizing a safe Learning for Life activity.

- **Adult Explorer Leader Basic Training (No. 34633A) and Self-Study Guide (No. 99-214):** These two pieces are geared toward adults involved in Exploring who need basic information on operations and program. The self-study guide is for any adult who cannot make the formal training session conducted by their local Learning for Life committee.



- **Character Education Activities (No. 99-223; CD-ROM):** A set of 25 moral dilemmas for posts to use in developing Explorers' critical thinking. Begin with the prepared dilemma and work toward your post developing its own situations.
- **"Facts Every Teen Should Know About Sexual Abuse" (No. 23-149):** This youth protection article looks at specific sexual abuse issues, includes a suggested discussion guide for youth and adult leaders, and lists resources for more information about sexual abuse.
- **Post Officers' Seminar (see the adult leader section of the Explorer Leader Handbook):** The post Advisor conducts this training to familiarize newly elected youth officers with their duties. It also demonstrates how to update the annual post activity schedule.
- **Youth Protection: Personal Safety Awareness (video), No. AV-09V027:** This VHS presentation, for any young person 14 to 20 years old, consists of a series of situations dealing with personal safety. After each scenario, there are instructions for local group discussions, followed by a teen panel with pertinent advice and comments regarding each situation.



These materials are available from your local Learning for Life executive or service center. Your local Learning for Life executive also has access to other resources that can help your post prepare young people for the future.

Additional Exploring Resources

A number of Exploring resources—including emblems, ribbons, certificates, mugs, and more—are available through your local Learning for Life office. Here is a list for you to use as a reference:

Item No.	Description	Item No.	Description
Certificates		Ribbons	
33144	Certificate, Deluxe Exploring Appreciation	4018	Ribbon, Explorer Law Enforcement Training
33727	Certificate, Law Enforcement	4019	Ribbon, Explorer Community Service
Emblems		4020	Ribbon, Explorer Crime Prevention
4002	Emblem, Big "E"	4021	Ribbon, Explorer Law Enforcement Service
4010	Emblem, Health Career	4022	Ribbon, Explorer Emergency Preparedness
4016	Emblem, Law Enforcement Explorer	4023	Ribbon, Explorer Tenure
4031	Emblem, Explorer Advisor	4025	Ribbon, Explorer Perfect Attendance
4032	Emblem, Fire Service Explorer	4026	Ribbon, Explorer Drug Prevention
4033	Emblem, Explorer Association Advisor	4027	Ribbon, Explorer Holder bar—1 ribbon
4035	Emblem, Explorer President	4028	Ribbon, Explorer Holder bar—2 ribbon
4037	Emblem, Explorer Vice President	4029	Ribbon, Explorer Holder bar—3 ribbon
4039	Emblem, Explorer Secretary	4030	Ribbon, Bar Explorer Law Enforcement Conference
4041	Emblem, Explorer Treasurer	4032	Ribbon, Advisor Leadership Law Enforcement
4045	Emblem, Explorer Post Committee	Other	
4046	Emblem, Explorer Aviation Airport Manager	4105	Ornament, Explorer with "E"
4047	Emblem, Explorer Aviation Mechanic	4160	Explorer Paperweight
4048	Emblem, Explorer Aviation Flight Attendant	9048	Exploring Plaque, Acrylic With Base
4049	Emblem, Explorer Aviation Ground Support	11134	Panel Drape
4163	Emblem, Aviation Explorer	11138	Flag Pole Top
4183	Emblem, Engineering and Technology Explorer	17583	Wood base for Explorer Emblem "E"
Pins		17685	Plaque, Exploring Appreciation
4001	Pin, Explorer "E"	17695	Paperweight, Exploring Thank-You
4182	Pin, Engineering and Technology Explorer	33729	Chart, Law Enforcement Proficiency Award
Mugs			
4000	Mug, Law Enforcement Explorer		
4003	Mug, Explorer "E," 10 oz.		

New Study on Exploring Outcomes Released

Late in 1998 a new study conducted by Louis Harris & Associates was published on Exploring. It is titled *The Exploring Experience: A National Program-Outcomes Study*. The research intended to identify and uncover aspects of the Exploring program that serve as indicators of positive outcomes.

The study first identified six critical elements of healthy youth development:

- Strong personal values and character
- Positive sense of self-worth and usefulness
- Caring and nurturing relationships with parents, other adults, and peers
- A desire to learn
- Productive/creative use of time
- Social adeptness

Explorers were asked to respond to a survey regarding their experiences in the Exploring program. The results of the report demonstrate that the

Exploring program addresses each of the six critical elements above.

Some of the results include the following:

- Seventy-five percent of the Explorers said that their post has dealt with a decision about right and wrong. These ethical decision-making skills are an important part of Exploring.
- Almost all (98 percent) of Explorers agreed that their activities in the program help prepare them for the future.
- More than 90 percent of the Explorers asked thought that being active in a post has helped them personally build self-confidence.
- Skills such as being able to share one's ideas and opinions, making new friends, talking to an adult, and talking to parents were practiced in posts by more than 90 percent of the youth surveyed.

The brochure that discusses the study can be obtained from your local Learning for Life office.

Exploring on the Web

The Learning for Life Web page, at www.learning-for-life.org, presents a wealth of information. Here is a quick rundown of what you can find.

- **Information specifically relevant to Exploring clusters:** Aviation, Business, Communications, Engineering and Technology, Health, Fire Service, Law Enforcement, Science, and Skilled Trades. A cluster represents a category of interests that a post might fit into. On the national level, each cluster is supported with a committee structure that helps expand the program by assisting with the creation of marketing campaigns and development of literature/program. For each cluster you'll find the following:

- Program ideas*, to help posts use all five areas of emphasis (see below) to develop a well-rounded program specific to the cluster

- A quarterly newsletter*, which features articles on new resources and program ideas from Explorer posts across the country

- **Information on Exploring scholarships.** Besides general information about each scholarship, you can download and print the actual application! Remember that the local Learning for Life office must approve the completed application before it is submitted to the national Learning for Life office. Also, each award has an application deadline.

Scholarship Information

Scholarship	Award	Deadline for 2000
Comair Aviation Academy Scholarship	Ten annual \$2,000 scholarships for aviation training	March 31
Silver Wings Fraternity Scholarship	Two Explorer scholarships of \$1,000 for a secondary aviation school or flying lessons	March 31
Sporty's Pilot Shop	Two annual scholarships of \$1,000 to enter or complete an aviation curriculum	March 31
International Association of Fire Chiefs Foundation (IAFCF)	Yearly \$500 scholarship to assist Explorers in pursuing a career in fire sciences	July 1
American Veterinary Medical Association	Award of \$500 to assist young adults in veterinary programs	March 31
Captain James J. Regan Memorial Scholarship	A \$1,000 scholarship	March 31
Drug Abuse Prevention Service Award	A plaque and \$1,000 award	March 31
FIA (Federal Investigators' Association) Volunteer Service Award	A savings bond award for an active Law Enforcement Explorer	March 31
The Floyd Boring Award	A plaque and scholarship of \$1,000	March 31
ISCCP Community Crime Prevention Award	Award to posts that exhibit outstanding support of their communities' crime prevention programs	March 31
Sheryl A. Horak Memorial Scholarship	Merit-based award of a one-time \$1,000 scholarship; award includes a plaque and pin	March 31
AFL-CIO Scholarship	Two \$1,000 scholarships to Explorers to support their education toward a career in skilled trades	April 30

Earn the National Exploring Excellence Award

When it is time to improve your post, remember to complete the application for the 1999 National Exploring Excellence Award (No. 99-216). The post must achieve six of 10 objectives to qualify (five, marked with an asterisk, are required).

The 10 objectives are:

- **Training***: The Advisor must complete Explorer Leader Basic Training.
- **Two-deep leadership***: The post will follow the guidelines of two-deep leadership, and one adult will be responsible for Youth Protection training.
- **Officers***: The post will elect officers and conduct a post officers' seminar.
- **Superactivity***: The post will conduct an annual superactivity.
- **Post program**: The post will have at least two meetings or activities each month.

- **Service project**: The post will conduct an annual service project.
- **First meeting**: The post will conduct an annual first meeting or other effort to recruit more youth.
- **Participation**: The post will renew the program with an equal or greater number of youth over the previous year.
- **Post committee**: A post committee of at least three volunteers must meet at least four times a year.
- **On-time renewal***: The post will complete its renewal before its current program expires.

Posts that earn the award will qualify for an emblem that will be attached to their certificate by the local Learning for Life office.

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